citizen Corps FOR SAFER STRONGER BETTER PREPARED **ILLINOIS COMMUNITIES** 

### **What is a Citizen Corps Council?**

Local Citizen Corps Councils build on community strengths to develop and implement a local strategy to have every Illinoisian participate through personal preparedness, training, and volunteer service.

The goal is to prepare for and respond to emergencies by bringing together local leaders, citizen volunteers and the network of first responder organizations.

Illinois' Citizen Corps initiative is administered by the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) in partnership with the Illinois Terrorism Task Force (ITTF).

The state level Citizen Corps Council is an eighteen-member Committee of the Illinois Terrorism Task Force (ITTF) that coordinates funding and provides policy decisions concerning the Citizen Corps program.

Grant funding is available for registered Citizen Corps Councils in Illinois. For funding information, contact IEMA.

#### **EMERGENCY CONTACT**

Name

Address

Day Phone

**Evening Phone** 

E-mail

#### EMERGENCY MEETING LOCATIONS

Near Home

2nd Location

Address

Phone

### LOCAL CITIZEN CORPS COUNCIL

Phone

### For more information visit:

IEMA - www.state.il.us/IEMA
ITTF - www.illinoishomelandsecurity.org
Citizen Corps – www.citizencorps.gov

## \* How is a Council Formed? \*

Councils are sponsored or endorsed by an elected local government official, city or county administrator. If your community does not yet have a Citizen Corps Council, please contact your mayor's office or other local government leaders to ask about how you can help. Councils are made up of:

- Business Leaders 💢 Media Executives
  - Others who support Citizen Corps

You may register your council online at: www.citizencorps.gov

# What are the Citizen Corps Programs?

Neighborhood Watch Medical Reserve Corps
Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) Fire Corps
Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)

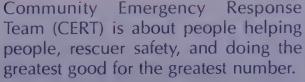
# What are the Benefits of Having a Council in Your Community?

Greater sense of responsibility, security, and personal control ☆ Builds community pride, unity, and patriotism ☆ Reduces burden on first responder services by promoting risk reduction, mitigation and preparedness measures ☆ Prepares us all for helping others in a crisis ☆

## What are the Responsibilities of a Citizen Corps Council?

Develop action plans to involve the whole community & Focus on public education, training, and volunteer opportunities for community and family safety & Promote and oversee Citizen Corps programs & Organize special projects/community events & Capture smart practices and report accomplishments &

### What is CERT Training



CERT is a positive and realistic approach to emergency and disaster situations where citizens will be initially on their own and their actions can make a difference.

#### The 20 hour CERT course includes:

- ☆ Disaster Preparedness
- ☆ Fire Suppression
- ☆ Team Organization
- ☆ Terrorism Organization
- Terrorism Module
- Light Urban Search and Rescue
- Medical Principles and Treatment
- Disaster Psychology

For more information visit: http://training.fema.gov/emiweb/CERT

